railway material to France ; and would undertake several other special tasks of patrol and supervision.

Admiral Jellicoe reported to the War Cabinet meeting on 16th April, that he had received a communication from the British Naval Attache at Washington to the effect that the International Conference had been a great success, very largely owing to the efforts of Admiral Browning. He now anticipated that the naval co-operation of the United States of America would be whole-hearted and more effective than had been anticipated.

Mr. Balfour and the British Mission reached America on sist April, 1917. The principal representatives with him were Lord Cunliffe *Members of* of the Bank of England ; Rear-Admiral *M&In* Sir Dudley de Chair to represent the Admiralty and Major-General G. T. M. Bridges for the Army ; while Mr. (now Sir) Walter Layton represented the Ministry of Munitions. In response to a cabled enquiry about their progress, the following telegram dated 26th April, 1917, records their first impressions on the other side :—

> €c Our problem was that administration here was found to be in a very chaotic state. It has, *First* therefore, not been possible to set on *impressions:* foot any formal discussions, and it was *chaos in* clearly intimated to us that, for the "*" present, we were not desired to put forward any precise demands, but merely announce

our readiness to give any information wanted on particular points. The actual arrival of the Mission, we are told, has been of very great service.
As a consequence committees have been appointed
to handle all the matters which our mission wants